

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:MR. ROY

APPROVED BY EA-MR. ARMSTRONG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE INFO HONG KONG
TOKYO MANILA JUL 31, 1976 FROM PEKING

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 1452

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY

SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE SITUATION

1. BECAUSE OF EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE, FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HERE IS CONCERNED ABOUT CURRENT AND FUTURE LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THEIR STAFF. AT PRESENT ALL DIPLOMATIC APARTMENT HOUSES HAVE BEEN CLOSED (EXCEPT FOR GROUND FLOOR APARTMENTS). INTERNATIONAL CLUB HAS BEEN CLOSED (BUT STILL OPERATES A LIMITED OUTDOOR RESTAURANT) AS HAVE PARTS OF PEKING AND HSIN CHIAO HOTELS. THERE IS SOME QUESTION ABOUT CHINESE ABILITY OR WILLINGNESS TO REOPEN SOME OF THESE BUILDINGS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. CHINESE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER SEVERE AFTERSHOCKS AND DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, THEY HAVE NOT YET OFFERED ANY OPINION ON STRUCTURAL SAFETY OF DIPLOMATIC APARTMENT BUILDINGS.

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2. SOME EMBASSIES (NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, UNITED

KINGOM, CANADA AND OTHERS) ARE CONSIDERING PLANS FOR AT LEAST PARTIAL EVACUATION OF DEPENDENTS UNTIL HOUSING SITUATION BECOMES CLEARER. IT WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY DIFFICULTY FOR EACH MISSION TO HAVE ITS STAFF QUARTERED IN RESIDENCES AND CHANCERIES FOR LONG PERIOD OF TIME.

3. THIS MESSAGE IS TO ALERT YOU THAT WE ARE DRAWING UP LIST OF DEPENDENTS THAT MIGHT POSSIBLY HAVE TO BE EVACUATED IF THE SITUATION WARRANTS DOING SO. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ASSESS THE SITUATION.

GATES

UNQUOTE

KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 31 JUL 1976
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